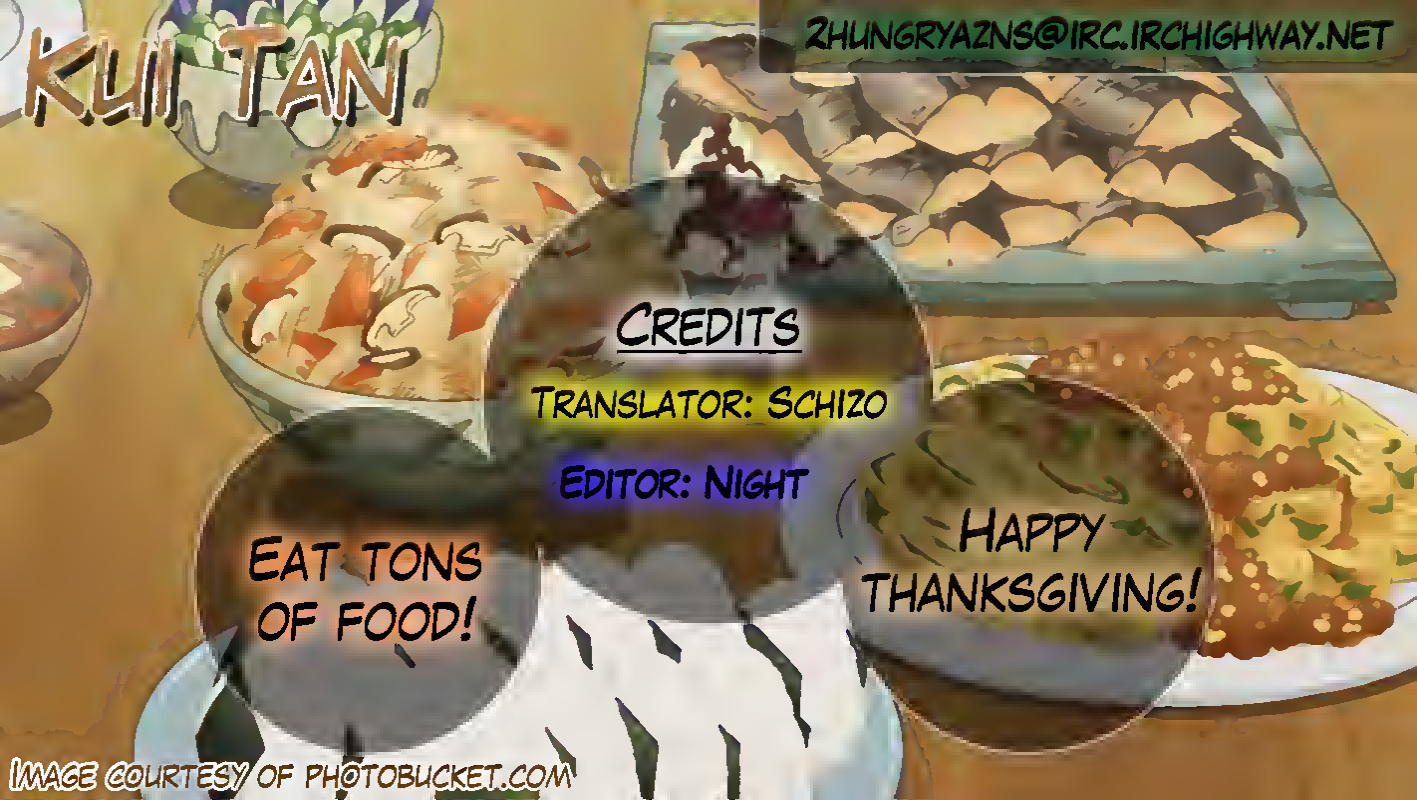
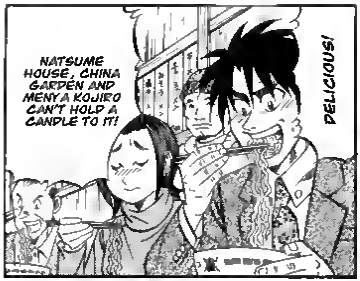

KUI TAN
2HUNGRYAZNS@IRC.IRCHIGHWAY.NET
CREDITS
TRANSLATOR: SCHIZO
EDITOR: NIGHT
EAT TONS OF FOOD!
HAPPY THANKSGIVING!
IMAGE COURTESY OF PHOTOBUCKET.COM

WOW, THERE REALLY IS A LONG LINE!
ALL THE MAGAZINES SAY THAT THE RAMEN HERE IS THE BEST
BEEP!
らーめん 将軒
TL note: Masaruken
WE'LL QUEUE, YES.
DIDN'T WE COME HERE TO QUEUE UP FOR MASA-RUKEN?
WH-WHAT?
PLEASE SEND ONE ORDER OF RAMEN TO EAST DISTRICT 3.
HI, IS THAT CHINA GARDEN?

HE MUST BE THE RAMEN-EATING CHAMPION!
THAT'S AMAZING!
BUT WE'LL EAT WHILE WE DO SO
ずずっ
ずずっ
中華園
TL: Chuukaen Garden
File.012
Devour a Takeout While Queueing Up!
the Case Files of the Gourmand Detective
WHAT'S WRONG WITH THE WORLD? Why are they cheering for him?

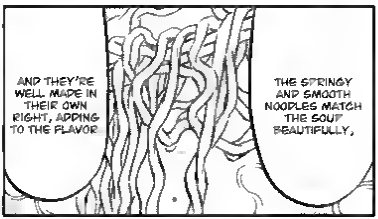
SORRY FOR THE WAIT!

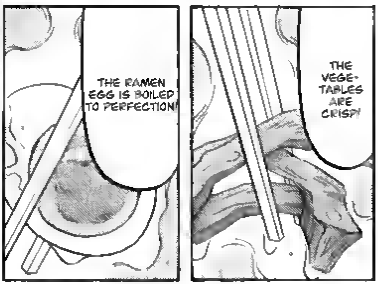

NATSUME HOUSE, CHINA GARDEN AND MENYA KOJIRO CAN'T HOLD A CANDLE TO IT!
DELICIOUS!

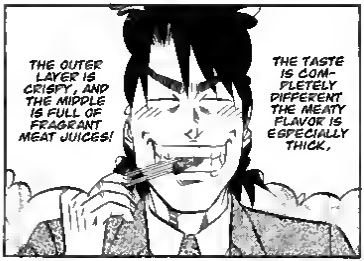
ズズ

WITH A BASE MADE FROM BEEF RIBS AND EGG SHELLS, THE SOUP IS COOKED WITH KELP AND DRIED FISH TO GIVE IT A JAPANESE TASTE
FIRST, THE SOUP - I COULD DRINK ANY AMOUNT OF IT

AND MOST IMPORTANTLY,
THIS FIRST-CLASS PORK!

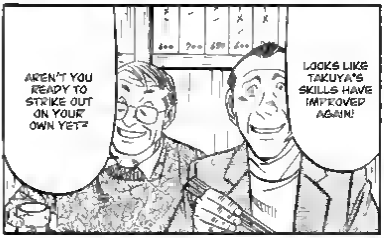

AND THEY'RE WELL MADE IN THEIR OWN RIGHT, ADDING TO THE FLAVOR
THE SPRINGY AND SMOOTH NOODLES MATCH THE SOUP BEAUTIFULLY,


THE RAMEN EGG IS BOILED TO PERFECTION!
THE VEGETABLES ARE CRISP!


THE OUTER LAYER IS CRISPY, AND THE MIDDLE IS FULL OF FRAGRANT MEAT JUICES!
THE TASTE IS COMPLETELY DIFFERENT THE MEATY FLAVOR IS EGPECIALLY THICK,

AND THERE'S NO NEED FOR A SECOND! SUCH SATISFACTION!
AH, JUST ONE BOWL,

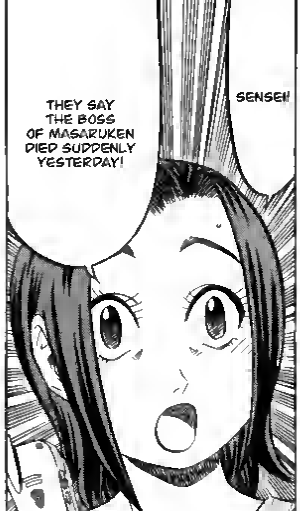
BUT PORK ROASTED IN AN OVEN!
IT'S NOT THE BRAISED PORK YOU GET AT NORMAL RAMEN SHOPS,


AREN'T YOU READY TO STRIKE OUT ON YOUR OWN YET?
LOOKS LIKE TAKUYA'S SKILLS HAVE IMPROVED AGAIN!

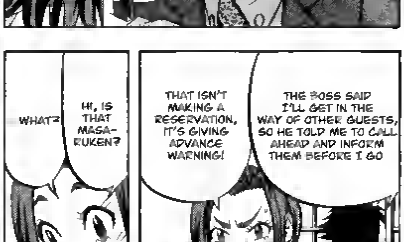
SENSEI IS FAR FROM SATISFIED WITH MY WORKMANSHIP
NO, SURELY NOT

HEY, AREN'T YOU CONTRADICTING YOURSELF STRAIGHT-AWAY?
IT'S TOO GOOD! ONE MORE BOWL!

GOING TO MASARUKEN FOR RAMEN AGAIN?
WHAT?
GOT IT!
HEY, TAKUYA, DON'T STAND THERE DAY-DREAMING!
IT'S A DIFFICULT PATH TO BECOMING A RAMEN CHEF
HE'S ALREADY AN EXPERT, BUT STILL ...
ズズ
EASY FOR YOU TO SAY, YOU'LL GET INTO TROUBLE AGAIN IF YOU INCONVENIENCE THE EDITOR!
I'LL JUST POSTPONE THE DEADLINE IF NEED BE!
AND THE DEADLINE IS CLOSE FOR THAT 30-PAGE ESSAY FOR KODANSHA!
And three takeout orders before that!
YOU JUST ATE SIX BOWLS ONLY THREE DAYS AGO!
IF EATING FOOD MADE YOU WRITE, YOU'D HAVE A MILLION WORKS BY NOW
I'M IN A BIT OF A SLUMP LATELY, MAYBE I NEED SOME GOOD FOOD TO WRITE

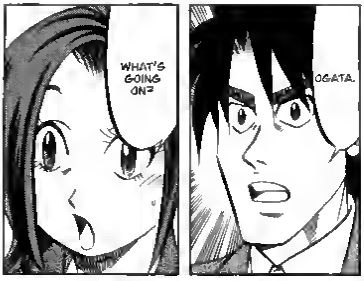

THEY SAY THE BOSS OF MASARUKEN DIED SUDDENLY YESTERDAY!
SENSEI!

YOU NEED A RESERVATION TO EAT RAMEN?
STOP BLABBERING ON AND MAKE THE RESERVATION


WHAT?
HI, IS THAT MASARUKEN?
THAT ISN'T MAKING A RESERVATION, IT'S GIVING ADVANCE WARNING!
People say that to you and you still want to go there?
THE BOSS SAID I'LL GET IN THE WAY OF OTHER GUESTS, SO HE TOLD ME TO CALL AHEAD AND INFORM THEM BEFORE I GO

SUSHI

THE POLICE ARE HERE!
SENSEI!


WHAT'S GOING ON?
OGATA.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
SENPAI,

COULD IT BE A CASE?
DIDN'T THE BOSS OF MASAFUKEN DIE OF ILLNESS?

HOW COULD IT BE?
H-

AND THE MURDERER IS AN EMPLOYEE HE...IS ONE FUJIKI TAKUYA!
THE BOSS WAS POISONED!

I DIDN'T DO IT!
IT WASN'T ME!

WE FOUND TRACES OF POISON IN THE RAMEN THAT YOU COOKED FOR THE VICTIM.
WE HAVE EVIDENCE!

YOU SAY I KILLED MY OWN SENSEI?
WHY AM I A SUSPECT?

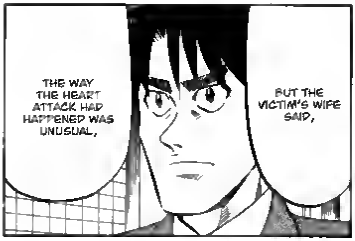
SO ONLY FUJIKI TAKUYA AND THE BOSS WERE IN THE SHOP.
YESTERDAY WAS MASAKEN'S REST DAY,

AND LET THE BOSS CRITIQUE IT.
FUJIKI WAS SCHEDULED TO PREPARE THE RAMEN HIMSELF THAT DAY,

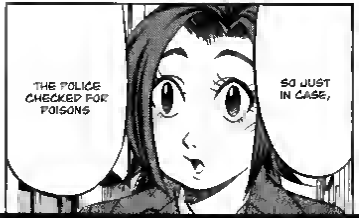
COULD YOU BE MORE SPECIFIC?

AND FUJIKI STILL COULDN'T PASS IT
BUT THIS TEST HAD BEEN GOING ON FOR THREE MONTHS
SIGH
IF THE MASTER GIVES HIS SEAL OF APPROVAL, THE APPRENTICE IS READY TO LEAVE
THIS IS A TEST FOR APPRENTICES BEFORE THEY START THEIR OWN SHOP.
YOU HAVEN'T PASSED YET!
NOT YET!
GOT IT.
WORK HARD AND ACCUMULATE EXPERIENCE.
UNTIL THE NEXT PAY OFF.

YOU'RE ALREADY SKILLED ENOUGH TO LEAVE ME SPEECHLESS
HE'S BEING TOO HARSH ON YOU!
NO, NOT YET
AH!
SO, DID YOU PASS THE TEST?
WHEW! IT'S COLD
ALL RIGHT.
OH,
COME, LET'S HAVE A DRINK!
WELL, FORGET IT, NO POINT MOPING.
HE DIED OF THAT HEART ATTACK
HE WAS HURRIEDLY SENT TO THE HOSPITAL, BUT IT WAS TOO LATE.
THE TWO OF THEM SAT DRINKING IN THE SHOP.
ACCORDING TO THE TESTIMONY,
THE VICTIM WHO HAD RETURNED HOME SUDDENLY HAD A HEART ATTACK.
BUT ABOUT AN HOUR LATER,


THE WAY THE HEART ATTACK HAD HAPPENED WAS UNUSUAL,
BUT THE VICTIM'S WIFE SAID,

SO AT THE TIME IT LOOKED LIKE JUST ANOTHER HEART ATTACK
THE VICTIM'S HEART HAD NEVER BEEN STRONG,

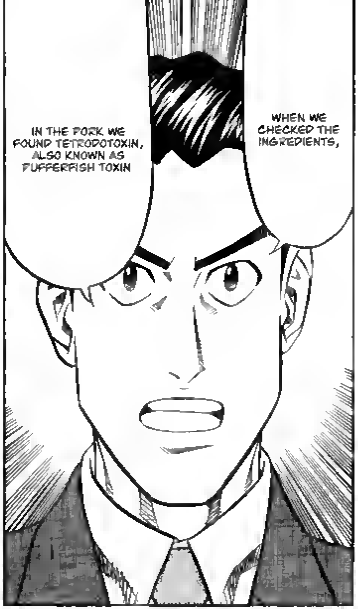

THE POLICE CHECKED FOR POISONS
SO JUST IN CASE,

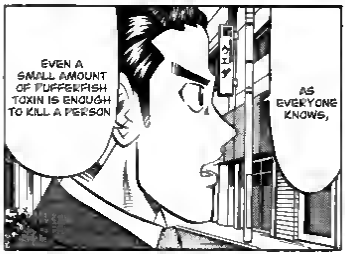
THE OLD MAN'S DEAD?
HUH? WHAT'S THAT?

FUJIKI AND HIS FELLOW APPRENTICE ODA SHINGO WERE STILL THERE DRINKING
THE POLICE REACHED MASARUKEN LATE AT NIGHT.

WE'RE BRINGING IT BACK FOR INVESTIGATION. DON'T TOUCH ANY OF IT
ARE THESE THE INGREDIENTS FOR THE RAMEN THE BOSS ATE YESTERDAY?

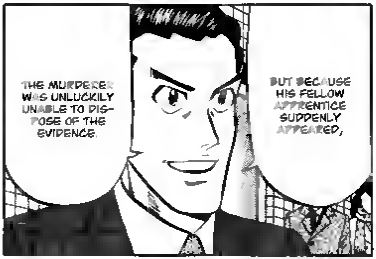
OH!
PUFFER-FISH TOXIN!


WHEN WE CHECKED THE INGREDIENTS,
IN THE PORK WE FOUND TETRODOTOXIN, ALSO KNOWN AS PUFFERFISH TOXIN


AS EVERYONE KNOWS,
EVEN A SMALL AMOUNT OF PUFFERFISH TOXIN IS ENOUGH TO KILL A PERSON

ALSO, ONE OF THE CHARACTER-ISTICS OF THIS TOXIN.
IS THAT AFTER ABSORPTION BY THE BODY, IT BECOMES UN-DETECTABLE

THE TOXIN ATTACKS THE NERVE CELLS, CAUSING PARALYSIS,
AND FINALLY IT STOPS THE HEART, CAUSING DEATH


THE MURDERER WAS UNLUCKILY UNABLE TO DISPOSE OF THE EVIDENCE.
BUT BECAUSE HIS FELLOW APPRENTICE SUDDENLY APPEARED,

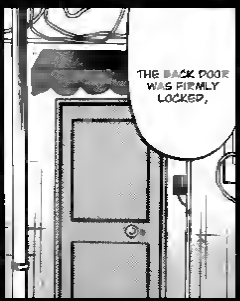
IF THAT PORK HAD BEEN DESTROYED,
THE CAUSE OF THE VICTIM'S DEATH WOULD HAVE FOREVER REMAINED A MYSTERY.

HMM

THE RAMEN NOODLES THE VICTIM ATE THAT DAY WERE MADE BY FUJIKI TOO.
BESIDES THE FELLOW APPRENTICE WHO ARRIVED AFTERWARD, FUJIKI WAS THE ONLY PERSON IN THE SHOP THAT DAY.

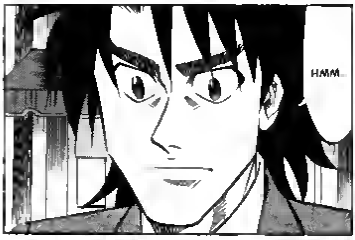
SO,
THERE'S ONLY ONE CONCLUSION -

AND NOBODY SAW ANY SUSPICIOUS PERSONS IN THAT TIME PERIOD.


THE BACK DOOR WAS FIRMLY LOCKED,

THE MURDERER WHO POISONED THE BOSS OF MASARUKEN WAS HIS EMPLOYEE, FUJIKI TAKUYA!
HE PUT THE TETRODOTOXIN IN THE RAMEN TO POISON HIS BOSS!

HIS MOTIVE
PROBABLY OUT OF ANGER THAT HIS BOSS REFUSED TO LET HIM SET UP HIS OWN PLACE!

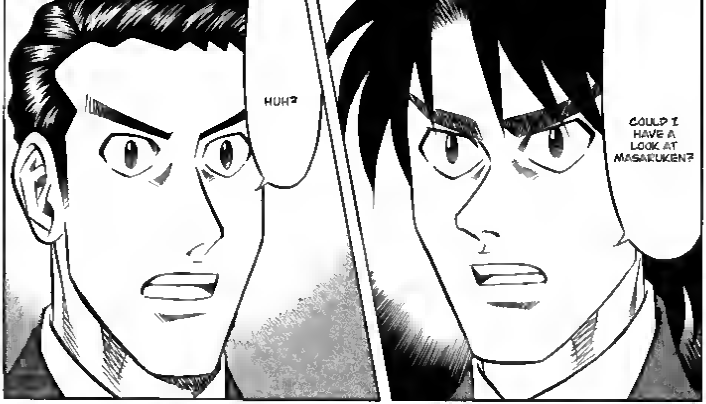

HMM...

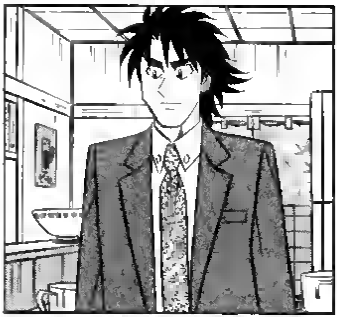
.....

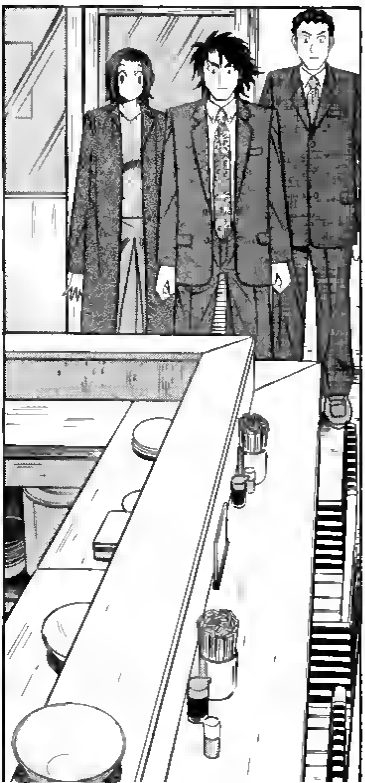
SURELY NOT!
HE SEEMED A NICE GUY!

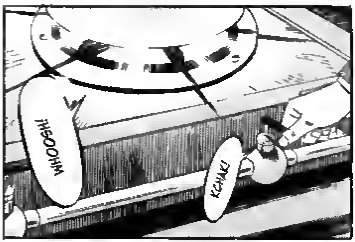
FUJIKI'S DENYING EVERYTHING.
BUT IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME TILL HE CONFESSES!

OGATA,
I'D LIKE TO ASK YOU FOR A FAVOR.

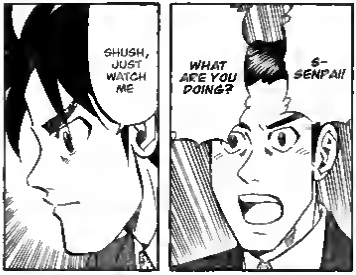

HUH?
COULD I HAVE A LOOK AT MASARUKEN?

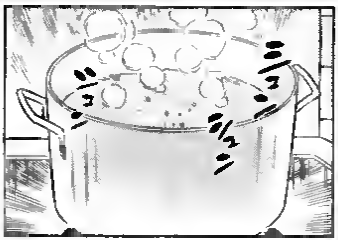





HMMMM
KOMA!

SO THIS IS IT...
MASARUKEN'S SECRET SOUP

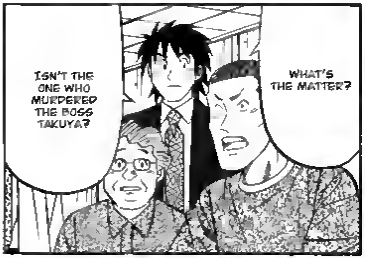

SHUSH, JUST WATCH ME
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
S-SENPAI!



Yeah!
WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS?
SENSEI!
MASARUKEN RAMEN COMPLETE!
AWESOME!

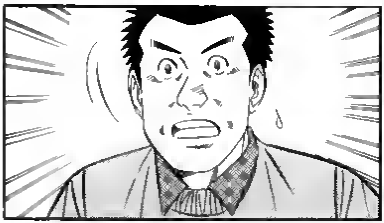
.....
!!
SENSEI!
NO!
IT'S POISONED! THERE'S POISON INSIDE!
YOU'LL DIE! YOU EAT IT AND YOU'LL DIE!
I DON'T CARE HOW GREEDY YOU ARE,
DYING OF PUFFERFISH TOXIN LIKE THAT WILL BRING SHAME UPON YOUR WHOLE FAMILY!

I'M STILL SINGLE, I'VE GOT NO KIDS
THERE'S NOT MUCH FAMILY TO BRING SHAME UPON!
HONESTLY!
THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT!
OGATA,
IMMEDIATELY,
GATHER EVERYONE HERE


WHAT'S THE MATTER?
ISN'T THE ONE WHO MURDERED THE BOSS TAKUYA?

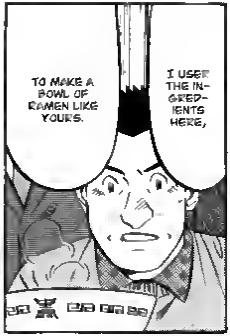
I DON'T WANT TO SIT HERE,
BESIDE THIS MURDERER!

I
DO NOT FOR ONE MOMENT BELIEVE YOU KILLED THE BOSS



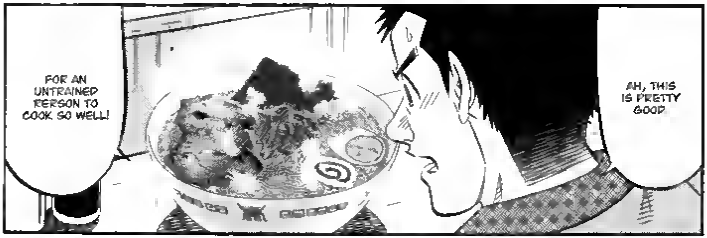
TAKUYA-SAN,

SENPAI!
WHAT'S GOING ON?
WHAT DID YOU SAY?
I'VE EATEN FUJIKI-KUN'S RAMEN
IT'S COMPARABLE TO HIS MASTER'S
THE BOSS DRANK EVERY DROP OF THAT RAMEN SOUP FUJIKI-KUN MADE FOR HIM
HE'D ALMOST REACHED THE LEVEL OF THE BOSS!
WHAT'S THIS?
THEN WHO POISONED THE PORK?
JUST A LITTLE MORE AND HE'D HAVE THE BOSS APPROVAL
THERE WAS NO BENEFIT FROM MURDERING HIM.

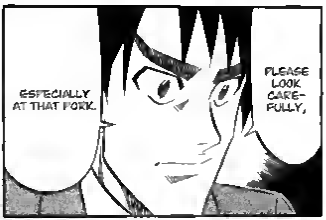

I USED THE INGREDIENTS HERE,
TO MAKE A BOWL OF RAMEN LIKE YOURS.

RIGHT,
TAKE A LOOK AT THIS

THE CRIMINAL WOULD HAVE HAD TO POISON THE PORK BEFORE IT WAS PUT INTO THE RAMEN,
BUT THERE WAS NOBODY HERE DURING THAT TIME!


FOR AN UNTRAINED PERSON TO COOK SO WELL!
AH, THIS IS PRETTY GOOD

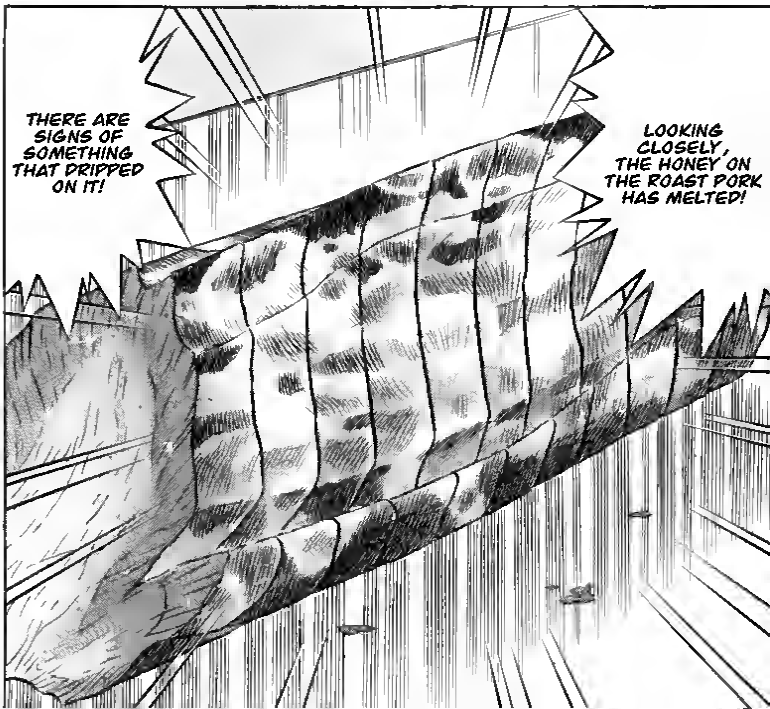
NORMALLY IT WOULDN'T BE SO OILY
THERE'S MORE OIL AROUND THE PORK THAN USUAL,


ESPECIALLY AT THAT PORK.
PLEASE LOOK CAREFULLY,

IN THAT CASE,
.....

THIS IS THE ANSWER!
LOOK,
HUH?
WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?
WHAT?
PRESS THE SIDES TOGE-THER AND TURN THEM OVER—
TAKE THESE PIECES OF ROAST PORK!
Y-YES!
FUJIKI-KUN, IS THIS THE PORK YOU ROASTED?

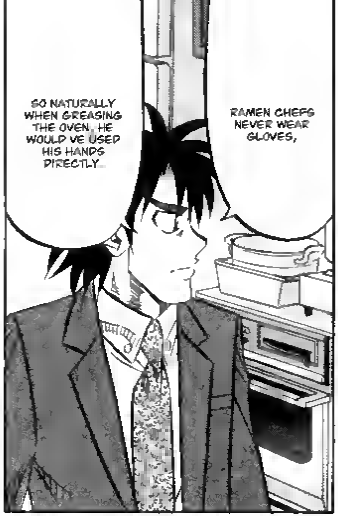
WHY?
WHAT'S THAT?
AH!
AH!


THERE ARE SIGNS OF SOMETHING THAT DRIPPED ON IT!
LOOKING CLOSELY, THE HONEY ON THE ROAST PORK HAS MELTED!

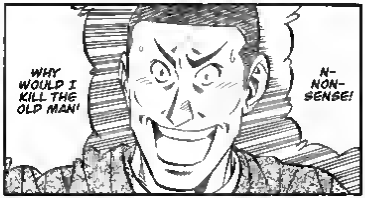
WH-WH-
WHAT'S GOING ON?
FOR ROAST PORK, FIRST YOU TAKE A SHOULDER OF PORK,
AND CUT IT EVENLY INTO SIX OR SEVEN VERTICAL SLICES.
THEN USE FIVE-SPICE POWDER, SOY SAUCE, WINE AND SO ON TO MARINATE THE MEAT.
AND THEN BASTE IT WITH HONEY, AND LET IT ROAST SLOWLY IN THE OVEN.
SOMEBODY USED THIS TO...
TO DRIP PUFFERFISH TOXIN ON THE PORK
WHAT?
HOW'S THAT POSSIBLE?
LOOK AT THE TOP OF THE OVEN'S INTERIOR.
THE TOP OF THE OVEN'S INTERIOR?

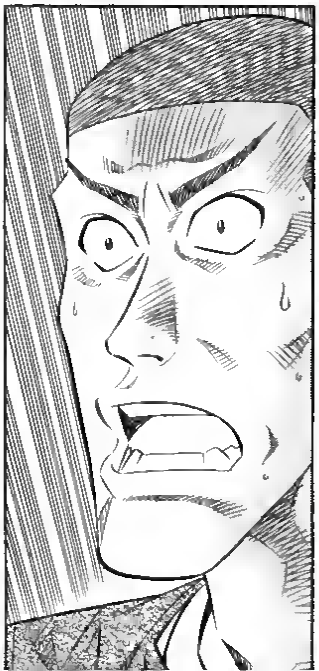
THERE ARE SIGNS OF GREASE!
ON THE TOP!
AH!
AT ROOM TEMPERATURE PIG GREASE WON'T MELT,
BUT WHEN THE OVEN HEATED UP, THE TOXIN DRIPPED ONTO THE ROAST PORK
GREASE!
IT'S PIG GREASE
THE TOP OF THE OVEN'S INTERIOR WAS SMEARED WITH PIG GREASE LACED WITH PUFFERFISH TOXIN

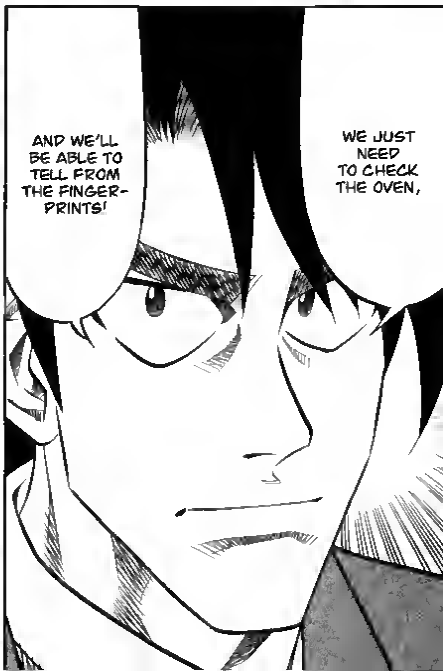
IF SOME OTHER GREASE HAD BEEN USED, THE BOSS WOULD HAVE DETECTED IT,
BUT NOT IF IT WAS FIG GREASE!
SO THAT'S IT!
HE WAS TOO FOCUSED ON TESTING HIS APPRENTICE, AND DIDN'T NOTICE?
FUJIKI HAD NO REASON TO KILL THE BOSS,
AND IF HE'D WANTED TO, HE HAD NO NEED TO USE SUCH A TROUBLE-SOME METHOD
THEN WHO WAS IT?
IF THAT PERSON HAD NEEDED TO CREATE AN ALIBI FOR HIM-SELF, AND SIMUL-TANEOUSLY CAST SUSPICION ON FUJIKI,
THERE'S ONLY ONE PERSON WHO ENTERED THIS MASARUKEN KITCHEN,
OTHER THAN THE BOSS AND FUJIKI-KUN!
!!!


SO NATURALLY WHEN GREASING THE OVEN, HE WOULD'VE USED HIS HANDS DIRECTLY...
RAMEN CHEFS NEVER WEAR GLOVES,

DON'T TELL ME YOU
OPA-SAN!


WHY WOULD I KILL THE OLD MAN!
N-NON-SENSE!




AND WE'LL BE ABLE TO TELL FROM THE FINGER-PRINTS!
WE JUST NEED TO CHECK THE OVEN,

QUICKLY, CALL FORENSICS OVER!
AND TELL THE LAB TO CHECK IF THE GREASE IN THE OVEN HAS TETRODOTOXIN!
OKAY!
It should've been my turn!
Why wasn't it me,
but you?

I HATE BOTH OF YOU! YOU WERE GOING TO SET UP YOUR OWN PLACE FIRST! YOU AND THE BOSS
YOU SHOULD BOTH JUST VANISH FROM THE WORLD!

AFTER ALL THAT,
MASARUKEN'S DOING WELL AGAIN UNDER FUJIKI'S MANAGE-MENT

将

HEHE, I'M HIS SAVIOR,
I SHOULDN'T HAVE TO QUEUE UP

AH!
THIS UNCLE ISN'T KEEPING THE RULES!

将
UNDER-STOOD!
YOU CAN'T CUT IN, YOU'VE GOT TO WAIT IN LINE!
YOU'LL ENJOY IT MORE AFTER YOU'VE QUEUED UP!